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The bi-weekly newsletter of the Indiana School for the Deaf

Campus Bulletin

Great technological news for ISD

By Dan Stutler

On January 14, the Procurement Division sent a Request for Bid to area vendors for the ISD backbone. The backbone is the campus-wide wiring for telephone, data, and video. Each classroom and office will have an outlet jack for telephone, computer networking, and video. This is the first step in the development of a fully integrated technological network that will provide e-mail, video conferencing, and Internet service for every student and staff member. Hence, it is called the ISD backbone. We predict that work will begin this summer

See "Backbone" on page 2

302 ... and counting!

by Donna Stutler

Because of a rush of recent registrations, ISD can proudly state that our enrollment is over the 300 mark for the first time since the 1993-94 school year!

It seems that some parents and LEAs were testing the waters in the mainstream programs, but realized that ISD is the right place for their deaf children. In addition, we are proud to welcome families who have moved to Indiana for the sake of enrolling their children here. We currently have families from Michigan, Utah, and New York, among other places.

We celebrated our "300+" milestone during a pep rally that was scheduled to send our athletic teams to the CSSD tournament in Ohio. All students, faculty, and staff were

See "302" on page 7

In this Issue

Great technological news for ISD
302 and counting!
ISD Usher's Syndrome screening: a big thank you!
Lost
dy's Damien Center anxious to serve the Deaf
AIDS workshop: what an impact!
Student play productions for 1998-99 school year
Cyber-news for AOL members
Please help our Elementary students go to DC

LINDA

ELLERREE

AT&T update	5
Congratulations!!	5
In-Service training: February 13, 1998	5
Strive for perfection, or else!	6
Student Life Employees of the Month	6
Look who attended workshops during the last two weeks!	
Save your Polaroid UPC codes!	
Staff Development Briefs	

ISD Usher's Syndrome screening: a big thank you!

Usher's Syndrome is a genetic condition that involves hearing, visual, and balance impairment. The purpose of the screening was to identify students who may unknowingly have the syndrome. The earlier we detect it, the better.

More than 85% of Elementary, Middle School, and High School students have been screened for Usher's Syndrome. Last fall, staff from various departments at ISD participated in a workshop sponsored by the Indiana Deaf/Blind Project at Indiana University. We learned a lot about Usher's Syndrome and how to conduct a screening session. Some staff didn't attend the workshop, but they came to the screenings and were trained then. The screening took place twice last fall for High School and Middle School students, and earlier this month for Elementary School students.

At the moment, a screening committee is currently working on some individual students

who showed some areas of concern. The follow-up work will include consultation with students, parents, teachers, staff, and others. For many other parents or students, NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

THANKS to everyone, including the parents, who completed the paperwork that helped the committee in the screening process. THANKS to the teachers and teacher-aides who were very supportive of this program by either allowing students to be taken from their classes to be screened, or accompanying students to the screening.

For those parents of students who didn't participate in the Usher's Syndrome screening, parental permission papers were distributed during the registration last fall. Many of the students who were transferred to ISD later in the year haven't been screened, and it is anticipated that we will be having one more

screening during in the Fall of 1998. Every effort will be made to ensure that 100% of the students have been screened by then, including students who were absent when we had the screenings done.

Last, but not the least, a big THANK YOU to the people involved in the screening:

<u>Health Center</u>: Penny Woodward and Ellen Sinsko

Assessment Center: Cindy Lawrence, Carol Wild, Jennifer Seet, Pam Burchett, Carolyn Pimentel, Terri Motter, Malcolm Peters, Linda Charlebois, Julie Buck, and Deb Liebrich

LRC: Kathleen Robertson PIP: Lori Dille and Vera Masters

<u>Parent Volunteer</u>: Lori Crohn

If you have any questions or concerns about Usher's Syndrome, please feel free to contact Malcolm Peters at the Elizabeth Willard Assessment Center, or at 920-6263 TTY.

Lost

by Joyce Levy

We are looking for a small pair of wirerimmed glasses that were lost somewhere between Koob Hall and Brown Cafeteria just before the winter vacation. If you find them, please contact Joyce Levy in High School, Room 204.

Backbone (from p. 1)

and be completed two weeks prior to the start of school. The next step is to connect the systems through servers, routers, hubs, and other equipment. The Technology Committee is working on the federal E-Rate grant to secure funding for this phase.

Indy's Damien Center anxious to serve the Deaf

From COLLECTivity, the newsletter of The Damien Center

[This article is quoted verbatim from the Damien Center's newsletter. I think it shows an impressive amount of cultural sensitivity on their part.

-- Editorl

Providing services that are accessible to everyone is one of our priorities at The Damien Center. With that in mind, a new need has been identified with which you may be able to assist. The Damien Center utilizes a TTY machine to communicate with Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals who call us. This device allows two people,

Deaf or Hearing, to type messages back and forth over the phone. Although this is an invaluable tool by itself, if a Deaf person calls us after we close or while no one is available to take the call they receive no response. In order to alleviate this barrier to our Deaf clients, The Damien Center is in need of a TTY answering machine. This will allow us to provide the same quality services we offer our Hearing clients in a culturally sensitive way. Even seemingly small details like allowing someone to leave a message and returning their call, indicating hours of operation, or listing emergency phone numbers can help someone feel like they are important.

If you would like to donate a TTY answering machine or give a restricted financial gift for the purpose of buying one, please contact Alan Witchey, 632-0123, x237. TTY answering machines are listed at approximately \$270 new. Any donation towards this goal will be greatly appreciated and will allow us to expand our services.

AIDS workshop: what an impact!

by Debbie Fetzer and Linda Lloyd

On Monday, January 26, the High School students were involved in a workshop aimed at ensuring that they knew and understood all the responsibilities and risks involved in being sexually active.

The workshop was developed by a large committee called together by Principal Linda Lloyd and Dean of Students Debbie Fetzer. The committee members included a large cross section of the ISD staff: residential staff, counselors, teachers, administrators, and health center personnel.

The workshop opened with a humorous skit by several staff members: a "cafeteria conversation" that could have come from any of our students. It outlined some behaviors that may be going among members of our student body.

The skit was followed by small group discussions. The first topic

was "What is Good/Not Good about Having Sex." The students really came through with some excellent, mature discussion points. The students continued the same effort through the second discussion topic, "Safe/Unsafe Sex and How to Protect Yourself." Both discussions yielded many thought-provoking responses.

The afternoon closed with an HIV/AIDS simulation activity. The students were given jars of water and were choreographed through a number of "rounds" to share the contents of their jar with those of another. One student, however, had a special colorless, odorless chemical in his jar that would react with another chemical to turn the liquid a strong pink color. As the activity progressed, more and more students were "exposed" to this chemical, our "virus."

At the end of the activity, the

second chemical was added to

all of the jars. Although we started with only one "infected" student, by the end of the simulation 55 of our 99 students had been exposed to our "virus." Some students were seen to protest, "But that's not fair! I only did that ONE time" while other students who were more "active" were able to dodge the bullet and come out clean.

That was the purpose of the activity. It doesn't matter how many times you have sex, only once with the wrong person can ruin your life. It also emphasized two other very important points: that you cannot tell who has AIDS judging by appearance alone, and that someone could be carrying the HIV virus without even knowing it.

Student play productions for 1998-99 school year

by Debbie K. Fetzer

Yay! Yay! (waving hands...clapping hands!) Hats off to Scotty Zwicker! Scotty will be directing a Middle School play, the deaf version of "Cinderella." It will be held sometime during late October or November 1998. He originally planned on having the play this spring. Because our auditorium is now closed for renovation, Scotty felt it would be better to have the play in the fall. Hands Alive! Funds will assist with costumes and other expenses for this play produc-

tion. If interested in being a part of his production team, please see Scotty.

Elementary and High School students have been begging and pleading to participate in a play production. I'm looking for staff members who are interested in directing/coordinating the Elementary play and the High School play. If you need more information or consultation about drama, scripts, and the works for student plays, Debbie will be more than happy to assist you.

Please help our Elementary students go to DC

by Laura Gaalema and Jeanne Meyerhoff Peters

The fourth grade class is preparing for a field trip to Washington, D.C., in April. They have completed a design for an long-sleeved T-shirt with the images of William Willard (Deaf School founder) on the front and of Alumni Hall on the back, "Indiana Deaf School" down one sleeve, and the names of

every student from Kindergarten

through 12th grade printed on the front and back. If you are interested in purchasing one (and supporting us on our field trip), please contact Jeanne Meterhoff Peters or Laura Gaalema to place your order. Adult sizes (small through XXLarge) are \$17 and Youth sizes (6-

165) are \$15.

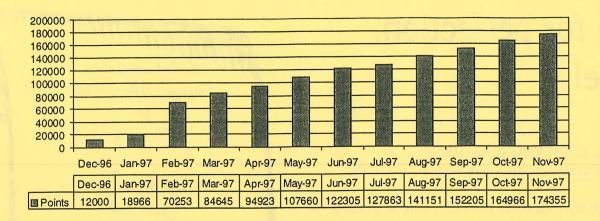
Cyber-news for AOL members

from Linda Charlebois

There is a new on-line service available specifically for teens who are deaf or hard of hearing. To use the chat group or the message board, users need to log onto AOL and go to keyword "PEN Deaf," which will take users to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Forum. To use the PC Pals message board, click on ! the button that says "Message" Boards." This will bring up a page called "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Message Boards," which gives users a choice at the bottom of either "Deaf or Hard of Hearing Board" or "Better Health Board." Click on the "Deaf or Hard of Hearing Board" button, and a long list of message boards will come up. Users might have to click on the "More" button a couple of times until the message board called "PC Pals Teen Network" is seen.

Also, Deaf Expo, a non-profit corporation recognized by many local, state, and national consumer organizations of Deaf and hard of hearing consumers, is now available on the Internet.

Come and visit them at http:/www.DEAFEXPO.ORG or e-mail to DEAFEXPO@aol.com.



AT&T update

by Jim Frenchik

ISD has been making steady progress in AT&T's Learning Points Program. Since the program began in the fall of 1996, we have earned 5 points for every dollar that ISD's AT&T customers spend on long distance. Since the 1997-98 school year began, we have had more than 90 AT&T customers donating their points to ISD. These points will eventually by redeemed for computer products. AT&T has a long list of software and hardware available for us to choose from.

Currently we have 94 AT&T customers donating their points to us. Our goal for this year is to get over the 100 mark! Please spread the word to any friends and neighbors who use AT&T long distance ervice to join ISD's effort. It costs NOTHING to do, and you don't have to do any work -- just make your normal amount of long distance phone calls.

To enroll in this program, just call 1-800-354-8800. ISD's account number is 01894163. Even the phone call is free!!

Congratulations!!

by Mary Alice Moon

When school opened, more than 60 ISD staff members volunteered to help with the Casa for Kids project down at Circle Centre Mall. We manned the sale of raffle tickets at the six different play houses for three full days during the month of October and some of you proved to be amazing sales people. This week we received a check for \$6,091 from Casa for Kids. Thanks to each and every one of you who helped us earn his money for our students. You are indeed a fantastic staff!

In-Service training: February 13, 1998

by Mary Alice Moon

All of the February 13th In-service Training forms have been tabulated. Right now the CSPD committee is in the process of trying to identify appropriate training rooms for each of the classes. As soon as the rooms have been identified, you will be sent a notice of which class you are in and where it will meet. The room assignments will be made by February 4, 1998. If you don't receive a notice by that date, please contact the Staff Development office.

Strive for perfection, or else!

Anonymous

If 99.9% is "good enough," then ...

- Two million documents will be lost by the IRS this year.
- 811,000 faulty rolls of 35 mm film will be loaded this year.
- 22,000 checks will be deducted from the wrong bank accounts in the next 650 minutes.
- 1,314 phone calls will be misplaced by telecommunication services every minute.
- 12 babies will be given to the wrong parents each day.
- 268,500 defective tires will be shipped this year.
- 14,208 defective personal computers will be shipped this year.
- 103,260 income tax returns will be processed incorrectly this year.
- 2,488,200 books will be shipped in the next 12 months with the wrong cover.
- 5,517,200 cases of soft drinks produced in the next 12 months will be flatter than a bad tire.
- Two planes landing daily at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago will be unsafe.
- 3,056 copies of tomorrow's Wall Street Journal will be missing one the three sections.
- 18,322 pieces of mail will be mishandled in the next hour.
- 291 pacemaker operations will be performed incorrectly this year.
- 880,000 credit cards in circulation will turn out to have incorrect cardholder information on their magnetic strips.
- \$9,690 will be spend today, tomorrow, next Thursday, and every day in the future on defective, often unsafe sporting equipment.
- 55 malfunctioning automatic teller machines will be installed in the next 12 months.
- 20,000 incorrect drug prescriptions will be written in the next 12 months

Student Life Salutes Employees of the Month for February

> Scott Smith Fair Hall

Barbara Webb Koob Hall

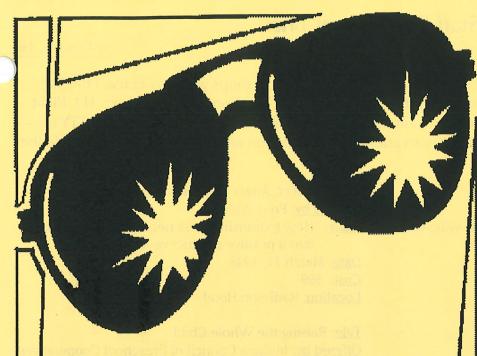
Lindsay Taylor Raney & Willard Halls

Congratulations! These employees have earned the privilege of using reserved parking spaces from Student Life as well as a few other surprises!

Keep up the outstanding job!

- 114,500 mismatched pairs of shoes will be shipped this year.
- \$761,900 will be spent in the next 12 months on tapes and compact discs that won't play.
- 107 incorrect medical procedures will be performed by the end of the day today.
- 315 entries in Webster's Third International Dictionary of the English Language will turn out to be misspelled.

(from <u>Insight</u>, Syncrude Canada Ltd., Canada Division)



Look who attended workshops during the last two weeks!

by Mary Alice Moon

Block Scheduling

Jeff Choate Jerry Thixton Jeff Richards

ICE (Computer Convention)

Elen Zook

Children: The

Forgotten Mourners

Carol Wild

Progressive Discipline

Debbie Fetzer Deb Robarge

ICASE Retreat

Judy Cass Carol Wild Cindy Lawrence Linda Lloyd

Coaches Conference

Mike McGeath Dan Fitzpatrick

Children's

<u>Literature</u>

Conference

Linda Canty Carol Keller Tim Burdsall Ted Myhre

Save your Polaroid UPC codes!

by Jeff King

Jeff King (Elementary Art Teacher) is a member of the Polaroid Education Program. He is able to receive fairly substantial discounts on film, cameras, and other Polaroid products. He is also able to save and trade in UPC codes from all Polaroid film boxes and receive film-developing equipment at no cost for the school. Please send him all of your Polaroid UPC codes from now on. Thanks for your cooperation.

302 (from p. 1)

treated to some delicious cake to mark the occasion.

As Superintendent Stailey pointed out at the rally, we still have a handful of new students awaiting admission to ISD, so we are still growing even as you read this article!

Staff Development Briefs

by Mary Alice Moon

If you would like more information on any of the following workshops you may contact the Staff Development Office, which is located in Building 6 in Room 223. Our phone number is ext. 414. Right now we still don't have a TTY answering machine, so if we are out of the office, please leave TTY messages with Pam Lewis at ext. 419. There is also additional information on the bulletin board outside the office.

<u>Title</u>: ADHD in Children and Adolescents <u>Offered by</u>: Central Michigan University

Skills: A new model that will change the way ADHD is

viewed

Date: April 24, 1998

Cost: \$130

Location: Adam's Mark Hotel

Title: All the World's a Classroom

Offered by: IUPUI

<u>Skills</u>: Ways for K - 12 teachers to incorporate simple

play production techniques into your class

room

Date: February 21, 1998

Cost: \$45

Location: American Cabaret Theater

Title: ASL: Whose?

Offered by: WASLTA Workshop Skills: What you will learn

<u>Date</u>: February 21, 1998 - 8:00 am - 12:30 pm <u>Cost</u>: \$20 for members \$30 for non-members <u>Location</u>: Paul Baldridge Distance Learning Center

Title: Metalinguistics: Terms in ASL

Offered by: WASLTA Skills: What you will learn

Date: March 6, 1998 6:30 - 8:30 pm

March 7, 1998 8:00

<u>Cost</u>: \$35 for members \$45 for non-members <u>Location</u>: Paul Baldridge Distance Learning Center

<u>Title</u>: Celebrating Our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children in the Home, School and Community

Offered by: NTID

Skills: How we can celebrate our children in different

areas

Date: June 27 - July 1, 1998

Cost: \$100 for members \$135 for non-members

Location: Rochester, New York

Title: Conflict, Anger and Emotion

Offered by: Fred Pryor

Skills: How to transfrom the negative energy of anger

into a positive productive force

Date: March 11, 1998

Cost: \$99

Location: Radisson Hotel

<u>Title</u>: Raising the Whole Child

Offered by: Indiana Council of Preschool Cooperatives

Skills: 40 different workshops are offered for

Preschool - K teachers

Date: March 7, 1998

Cost: \$27

Location: Northwest High S

<u>Title</u>: Stress Management

Offered by: State Training Center

Skills: How to do a better job of controlling your own

stress

Date: February 25, 1998

Cost: No Charge

Location: State Training Center

<u>Title</u>: Myers-Briggs Type Indicator

Offered by: State

Skills: Develop an understanding of different person

ality types
<u>Date</u>: March 25, 1998

Cost: \$25

